

The Government has received reports from Canton and other ports that the typhoon has fallen at all stations. The centre of the depression appears to be situated between Hongkong and S. Cape, Formosa. It will probably proceed Northwards.

A private letter received from Canton dated Sunday states: "There is considerable excitement within the city, and any day there may be another explosion. A small matter would arouse the populace and bring about more rioting."

Mr. J. Orango, O.E., who recently left here, with the permission of the Government, to survey the tin mines of the Porak Tin Mining Company, is expected to return here, with his report about the middle of this month.

Judgment will be delivered in the case of *Ackroyd v. Ho Lai Shee* by Sir George Phillippo, at 11 a.m. on Thursday. Judgment in the case of *Loprak v. Cheong Yi Choong* will also be delivered at the same time.

The Band of the Buffs will play at the Officers' Mess, Murray Barracks, to-morrow evening, 10th inst.

PROGRAMME.
March: "Comic Songs".....Kuppert
Overture: "Les Chaperons Blancs".....Anther
Polka: "In Bridal Array".....Meydoff
"Valme".....Kuss
Selection: "The Rose Tree".....Sullivan
Duet: "I would my Love".....Mendelssohn
Galeop: "Round Oak".....Van der Helmel

Last night, about half past seven, considerable excitement was created in Queen's Road West by a number of men endeavouring, so it is reported, trying to break through the roof of a house entirely occupied by women. The women by their frantic yells, soon brought both the police and civilians to their assistance, and a large crowd congregated. Whether anyone was arrested or not we have not heard, but peace was soon restored.

It has been suggested by several of our readers that Dr. Dolereck should, instead of painting all his storm signals red, paint them with different colours. This would simplify matters materially. At present it is difficult, indeed, for some people on this side of the harbour to make out whether the signal hoisted is a drum, or a cone, or a ball. There are other colours which are equally luminous with red, and were the different signals differently coloured, they could be made out with greater ease and certainty than they can at present.

It has also been suggested if the colour cannot be changed that the signals would be more visible at the yard arm, than they are on the staff.

The steamer *Namania* and *Saltet*, which recently owned and run by Messrs. Roque Brothers of Hiphong, have been sold to Mr. J. W. Jameson, of Hongkong. The *Saltet* has already been registered in the name of the new owner and hoisted the Union Jack in place of the tricolor at noon to-day. The registration of the *Namania* will, we believe, be completed to-morrow, and the two vessels will continue to run as before, between Hongkong, Hoihow and Hiphong, Messrs. Marty & Co. still retaining the agency for the steamer in Hongkong. Captain George Wright, late of the s.s. *Generalista*, has been appointed to the command of the *Saltet*, while Captain Gaspard will remain in command of the *Namania*.

H.B.M.'s corvette *Salpêtré*, which arrived here yesterday, named H.B.M.'s gunboat *Zephyr* in the Min; a little above the Kimpai Pass. The *Zephyr* signalled the fact that the vessel had been fired upon from the Kimpai Pass. By means of the semaphore, but no particulars were given. The officer who was injured is believed to be Lieutenant E. P. R. Servoise, and information is said to have been received by Rear-Admiral Lesseppe, to the effect that he has since died from the effects of the injuries received.

It appears to be somewhat doubtful whether H.B.M.'s ship *Morin*, to relieve which at Poonchong the *Zephyr* went up, will be able to get down to Poonchong owing to the barrier which has been constructed across the river above the Anchorage. The power left is so small that it is only wide enough for junks to pass, but it is possible that upon representations being made to the Chinese authorities, it may be widened sufficiently for the passage of the *Morin* and *Zephyr*.

When the *Zephyr* left the river Min the Chinese Revenue was anchored off the entrance to the river and the *Beyers*, *Vollé*, *Dequay*, *Préville*, *Devine*, *Alpé* and another French gunboat were lying to the west of Malou. A large black merchant steamer was also there discharging coal.

Another French gunboat arrived just as the *Saltet* was leaving.
Besides the *Zephyr*, H.B.M.'s ships *Chapman* and *Villiers* were at Pagoda Anchorage on the 6th inst.

The American ship *Mythic Belle*, which arrived here yesterday evening, reports:—Left Newcastle on June 20th; had fine weather and calm to Balinghian Channel on August 20th, with the wind at North blowing heavy gale; hove ship to in lat. N. 20° 25', long. E. 120° 26', under lower mainmast sail, and foremast staysail; barometer 29.62 and falling; gale increasing to a typhoon, at 11 a.m., on 21st lost sail set, and let ship lay under bare poles until a.m. 22nd, when the wind had got round to S.W. and moving to the Southward. With rising bar, had fine weather. Found that the ship had driven to the N.N.W. 160 miles placing her on the Southern end of Formosa Bank; thence to port fine weather and variable winds. The *Mythic Belle* reports having spoken, on the 21st ultimo, the American ship *Mary L. Stone* in latitude 22° 40', and longitude 118° 30', bound to Shanghai.

An exciting and desperate encounter occurred between the third officer of the steamship *Emeralda*, Mr. Valse, and some boat people at Amoy on the occasion of that vessel's last visit to that port. Mr. Valse went ashore early in the evening and visited one of his friends in the Custom House, and from there he proceeded to visit another friend of his in the German Consulate. After staying some time with the latter, he started off again for his ship, pretty late in the evening, engaging one of the ordinary small sampans to pull him off. The night was dark, and his ship was lying about a mile from Kufungsoo. As usual there was only one man on board, who yulohed the boat from the stern. Mr. Valse sitting on a seat in front of where the man stood. When a short distance from the shore, Mr. Valse suddenly and quite unexpectedly sustained a severe blow across the head with a heavy piece of wood.

Fortunately he was wearing a top hat, and this saved him from being stunned. An instant after the first blow was struck, Mr. Valse received another blow on the shoulder, apparently with the same instrument. He sprang round at once and seized his assailant by the throat, at the same time dealing him some heavy blows with his fist. In the struggle which ensued both men fell into the water, each paddling the other as hard as he could. Ultimately Mr. Valse got rid of the Chinaman, and clambered into the sampans, and commenced to row towards the shore. The man in the water had all this time been shouting out "ta." Soon some of his countrymen came along in sampans, and frantically attacked Mr. Valse with boat hooks and other weapons. Mr. Valse defended himself as best he could with the oar in his possession, but the blows fell fast and thick, as his body afterwards showed. He was at length driven into the water, and set out for the shore, still pursued by the natives. In getting ashore, he had to walk through mud which almost reached his waist but he managed to scramble through it. He then lay down very much exhausted. After a brief rest he made for the German Consulate, where he slept all night. He went off to his ship in the morning. Mr. Valse is a big, strong man.

Attacks of this kind may become more frequent now, and officers and others who may go ashore at night at the Coast Ports should be watchful of their persons.

On Sept. 1st, says the *Straits Times*, no less than three mad dogs were shot by one European policeman, and on the next day, another dog with every symptom of rabies was killed by a Sikh policeman in River Valley Road.

The *Shunpo* says that the Viceroy of Chekiang has sent the following note to the officials at Nanking, Foochow and Hangchow:—Tongking and Annam have been completely retaken by the Chinese. When the Chinese were going to conquer Saigon the fortress in Hailong Bay opened fire on them and killed many Chinese soldiers with machine guns. Liu Yang-fuk then took a party of soldiers in sampans to the fortress and killed nearly all the Frenchmen, taking several prisoners. He afterwards captured Saigon. The *Shunpo* adds that he has to publish the news he received, we give it without vouching for the truth of it.

A young artist was greatly attracted by the beauty of a lady who sat at a window in the house opposite his studio. He sent places of admiration up to her window whenever he passed into or out of his room. At length, one day, seeing her in the street, his artistic tastes ran away with his good judgment, and reaching her, panting with the haste he had made, he gasped out: "Oh, miss, your lovely blonde hair! I am dying to paint it!" The lady, with a quick movement, put her hand to her head, and then looking at him with her hair at arm's length, exclaimed: "Take it, then it is! Send it back when you are through with it, and stop staring at my window; my husband is dreadfully jealous, and will thrash you for your impudence!" The unfortunate artist has not been on a case for "lovely blonde hair" since.

The cable steamer *Recluse* of the W. C. of America Telegraph Company has recently been engaged in repairing that company's cable off Pisco, Peru. While in latitude 13° 51' S., longitude 76° 43' W., an immense whale, measuring from seventy to seventy-five feet, came up entangled in the cable. In its struggles to free itself the cable cut into the whale's right side, the entrails and large quantities of blood issuing from the wound and floating round the ship. In the last dying struggle it panted the cable and floated away to windward of the steamer. On Monday, the 29d, after the cable was repaired, the *Recluse* returned to pick up the pieces of cable in which the whale was entangled. The whale had drifted away from the cable, as nothing could be seen of it.

The cable was found twisted up in a most curious fashion, and in no less than six different places was bitten through sufficiently to stop all communication.—*Panama Star and Herald*.

THEODORE H. GROWNEY, an engineer who has returned from the Isthmus, where he has for two years been engaged in the excavating works at Colon and Rio Grande, and who has been over the entire proposed route of the Panama canal, takes, says the *San Francisco Bulletin*, a gloomy view of the work. He says that one of the early obstacles was a coral ridge inland from Colon, which was found under the accumulated earth and vegetation of many years, and which still remains as a barrier. It is porous and blows up rather like dirt, than stone under the action of dynamite. The dredgers have dug two feet deep, and of an average width of one hundred feet. At Monkey Hill a ledge of solid rock was encountered and the concrete was changed to 1,000 feet from the original survey. The working line is divided into twelve sections. On one section over \$2,000,000 have been expended, blasting out rocks and disposing of trees. Costly mistakes have occurred. In one change of line \$5,000,000 were lost, as they had already been expended on the original work on that section. The Culabra cut which was estimated to cost \$10,000,000 is likely to cost \$20,000,000. The only resemblance so far to a canal is a ditch one mile wide, and 200 feet deep, and 200 feet wide. It has been expended, and two-thirds of the sun went for purchases and preliminary work. Mr. Growney says that the money has been expended "wrongly, stupidly and fraudulently. Against the funds laid out in the performance of the hospital service nothing can be said, but the waste in patronage and corruption is something appalling. The French engineers are honest and painstaking, but the canal has been made too much of a home for compatriots, and too much of a happy with a position averaging \$250 a month, given a horse and house, a carriage if he is located in Colon or Panama, and as a rule he does nothing. All along the line splendid houses have been put up for the French, and the French have been getting a transfer to the health resort on the Island of Tobago. They are in no hurry, and evidently look upon their positions as life-long sinecures. There is no particular anxiety to get the work done, and there is a committee of investigation sent out from Paris last March which were captured by the officials, whirled about in places cars, shown the works through telescopes, wine, dined and sent back convinced that everything was lovely. Unfortunately, some hardy shareholders have made personal investigations, information has been received by a score of different channels, and I notice that the last call of 25 per cent. on the stock has come in very promptly. The issue, if I remember right, was floated at \$100,000,000, and 50 per cent. of that has now been paid in with the understanding that it was to last through this year, and if \$50,000,000 out of the \$100,000,000 had been expended up to the end of June, that leaves \$10,000,000 to be used. The French original foreign contractors not one remains, and of the four American contractors two have failed.

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Mr. Maillon explained that the previous evening the complainant had pretended to be lame and was unable to go to school. He would not come to school and said that he did not know a word of his lesson and did not wish to recite. He refused to do any work at all and as defendant told him he should recite his lesson, he refused to do so. Defendant then sent for his cane and gave him four cuts. After this complainant learnt his lesson at once.

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POSSESSION OF STOLEN PROPERTY.
Kwong Ah, alias Ocho, Fung Sau Ping and Lau Ahoi, married women, were charged with being in possession of stolen property belonging to Messrs. Rose & Co. Joseph Harman, of Messrs. Rose & Co., stated that he received information yesterday morning that the above-named women were in possession of some things from the Rose & Co. Police Sergeant Butler gave evidence to the effect that at noon yesterday, by virtue of a warrant, he arrested the above-named women at their residence at 13, Wicketon and Dancourt offices in the Queen's Road, to make a search for stolen property. In a back room he found two large pieces of damask, and in another room found a basket and a box. The second defendant produced the key of the box, which, on being opened, was found to contain half a dozen singlets, drawers, nine pairs of socks, a piece of black satin, a pair of shirtings and two pieces of lace. A lady's jacket was found in the back room. Witness said that the first defendant, who was a servant of Mr. Wicketon, was in charge of the house. The

third defendant admitted being engaged by second defendant to carry the goods to the house, and the second defendant stated that her husband took the things. The case was remanded for a week.

ALIBI ATTEMPT AT DUBAULY.
Wat Aping, unemployed, was charged with being armed at night with the intent to break and enter the Hongkong Dispensary, and being in possession of burglars' implements at night. The intent to break and enter the Hongkong Dispensary was proved by the evidence of the Police Sergeant John Butler, who gave information at 10 o'clock last night that a man had broken into the store at Watson & Co's. He went to the premises and found a hole had been made in the wall. After leaving the store he went to the Police Sergeant and gave him the information. The Police Sergeant went into the Dispensary and examined the premises. He found the defendant in the store and the defendant admitted that he had broken into the store. The case was remanded for a week.

AN INCONSIDERABLE SCHOOLER.
Mr. J. H. Maillon, schoolmaster, appeared on a summons charging him with unlawfully assaulting Nicholas Rezo, a schoolboy under his direction, on the 8th inst. Complainant's account of the matter was to the effect that he lived at Mr. Maillon's school. On the morning of the 8th inst. Rezo, a boy of about 12 years of age, was not ready with his lesson. After taking all the others defendant told him to stay and study his lesson. He stayed till 11 o'clock and then defendant told him that he would not study his lesson, and that he would go to bed. Rezo then went to bed, and complainant went to school. Complainant then went to see Mr. Basa.

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